

The Bloomfield Record.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 15, 1874.

The long looked-for arrival of King David Kalakaua, of the Sandwich Islands, took place last Saturday, shortly before noon, and we have now, what we have never had before, a live reigning King in our midst. At 10:30 o'clock in the morning, a special train left the city for the purpose of meeting the royal party. A number of members of the press, Secretaries Fish, Belknap, and Robeson composed the distinguished gentlemen who were to proffer the hospitalities of the National Capitol, on behalf of the Government to his Majesty.

Chief Justice Allen, with Commodore Carter, is a member of the King's Staff, introduced Secretary Fish to the King first. The Secretary then informed the King that he and his associates had been appointed by the President to meet him on his way and to welcome him in his name and in that of the people to the National Capitol. The King then thanked him in reply, and invited the distinguished party to try some of his wine, a large quantity of which he had on the train, to be used in case of sickness or any general derangement of the system.

Accompanying his Majesty was Gov. Dominis, who is Adjutant General of the Sandwich Island Military, Gov. Kapena, who is an editor and publisher of a paper in Honolulu, and H. A. Peirce, U. S. Minister to the Hawaiian Islands, and several Army and Navy officers.

Carriages were waiting at the depot, and on starting they were headed by the Marine Band, escorted on each side by mounted Police, and in front by the Marine Corps. They proceeded direct to the Arlington Hotel where a suite of thirteen rooms was engaged, and where the royal party is now comfortably domiciled. The King expects during his visit here to negotiate a reciprocity treaty that will be advantageous to his country. He has always had a kind feeling towards us, and desires to put himself, in a manner, under our protection. Several unsuccessful attempts have been made to effect a treaty of the kind mentioned between the two countries. The King has full power to enter in any agreement that he considers satisfactory.

No one would ever take King David for a King by his personal appearance. He has no kingly look about him, and appears to be a rather pleasant fellow. He talks English as good as anybody else, and looks like a very large number of colored citizens that we have in our city. In color he is a little darker than "tuffy," and not quite as dark as the negro. He is about 38 years of age, has a full broad chest, weighs about 180 pounds, has curly hair, and a mustache which protrudes with silken fineness well over the lower jaw. He was dressed in a heavy chinchilla overcoat, light in color, black pants and coat, number eight boots, well polished, and latest style of black stovepipe hat. He is said to be of marked intelligence is a great English reader, is simple in his manners, and goes out in society in Honolulu the same as any private gentleman. His face is lit up by a large black eye of considerable size, and on the whole he presents the appearance of a gentleman of refinement and education. It undoubtedly will be interesting to know the King is married to the Chiefess Kapiolani, daughter of the Hawaiian chief Keawe (not Keno) and his wife Kaiaminihiamama. The present queen was named after the celebrated Kapiolani, mentioned in history as the one who first broke the idolatrous taboos.

The King took a severe cold at Omaha, and has remained in his room since his arrival here, until to-day, when, at one o'clock, he called and paid his respects to the President. The Vice President appointed Senators Cameron and McCreery, and Speaker Blaine, and the Speaker of the House appointed Messrs. Orth of Indiana, Hoar of Mass, and Cox of N. Y. as a committee to make arrangements for the proper reception of the King by Congress.

The ladies of the Centennial Tea Party, at the Rotunda of the Capitol, which takes place to-morrow night, requested the King to sit for his photograph, and he has promised to comply.

Attorney General Williams has come to the relief of the parties indicted and tried for the Safe Burglary case. As stated in this correspondence, the Grand Jury which found the indictments against these men was likely to be called illegal. This has been declared. Mr. Harrington had indicated a desire to waive objections to a trial on that account, but others of the conspirators entertained just the opposite sentiments. In the Criminal Court a letter from the Attorney General was submitted, saying in substance that the Government did not feel disposed to proceed any further with the case, in view of the fact that the Grand Jury which found the indictments had been declared illegal; that the advisability of submitting evidence to a new Grand Jury would be a matter for future consideration, and that the Government was not prepared, now, to say what further course would be pursued. Judge Mr. Arthur said, after hearing the letter read, that only one thing remained, and that was to enter a *nolle prosequi* against all the defendants, and to discharge them from custody, which was accordingly done. It is understood, however, that this is not the last of this remarkable criminal case, for whatever may be the personal desire of Attorney Gen'l. Williams, the officials in charge of the Secret Service Division are unwilling to remain subject to the imputation that Whitley and Nettleship have been dismissed without cause, and that the head of the Treasury Department has been made a cat's paw of a conspiracy contrived up for the purpose of ruining the late head of the Secret Service and his principal assistant. It is thus understood, then, that the prosecution is only suspended, and the evidence in the case will be submitted to a new and legal Grand Jury.

Mr. Beck of Kentucky, yesterday moved to suspend the rules in the House of Representatives, and pass a resolution, to appoint a committee of five members to inquire into this Safe Burglary. It was rejected.

The new District Bill for the future Government of this District has been reported, but is so complicated that a number of changes will be made before it is finally adopted.

It is officially announced that twenty-two foreign governments have formally accepted invitation to participate in the American Centennial, including Germany, Spain, France and Sweden; England not being among the number. Sweden and Norway have together appropriated \$133,000, for the purpose of a good display. Mexico has raised \$70,000. Brazil wants 64,500 square feet of exhibiting space.

Vice-President Wilson entertained two distinguished Englishmen, Mr. Wm. Foster, and Sir. Foxwell Buxton, with a dinner party at Wormley's. Chief Justice Waite, Sir Edward Thornton and Speaker Blaine was present, among others. The dinner was given in what is known as the Summer room, which is furnished entirely with articles belonging to the late deceased Senator. General Butler will soon report the Civil Rights Bill from the Judiciary Committee of the House, amended so as to avoid objection regarding the mixed school feature. All of the colored men will support it in this shape, and its passage will therefore become a question of strict party division.

The following is the article of amendment to the constitution, proposed yesterday: "The Executive power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of six years. No person elected to the office of President shall be eligible for re-election."

Senator Stockton is now said to be stated as his own successor by the Democracy of New Jersey. He has made no mark in the Senate, but is a pronounced Bourbon, and therefore available, I suppose. I fail to remember, and would like any one to state, anything this gentleman has ever done to advance the interests or sustain the honor of our State.

John Chamberlain, the sporting man of New York and Long Branch, has purchased the residence of Col. Knapp (late occupied by the English Minister) cor. of 17th and I streets, and intends opening a first-class Club House.

The magnificent new residence of the British embassy, on Connecticut avenue, was occupied for the first time by the Legation within the past few days.

Commander Wm. G. Cushing, U. S. Navy, who was made famous by his destruction of the Rebel Ram Albatross, and who has, of late, been stationed at the Washington Navy Yard, has become insane, and was removed to the Government Insane Asylum.

The New Orleans Bulletin lays down the following Democratic rule:—"Republicans should no longer be countenanced in politics, patronized in business, or recognized in social intercourse." It consistently goes on to denounce the churches, and that portion of the community who observed the 25th as Thanksgiving day.

Perhaps the Northern Democracy will have some doubt whether this style of talk in calculated to pave the way for a democratic victory in 1876.

VINCENT.

Congressional Gossip.

Congress commences as usual, characterized by the rush of the curious who filled the galleries. Of the whole army of martyrs on the floor of the House, none attracted more attention than General Butler, who wore an expression of countenance which is peculiar to the placid features of virtue's votary at the close of a well-spent life.

Speaker Blaine called the House to order. Mr. Phelps of New Jersey endeavored to resolve away the gag-law, and the House then took a recess—nothing else, be it understood, save a sandwich sold in reformed restaurant down stairs—and at 1:35 P. M. resumed its session and heard the President's Message.

Mr. Garfield then led off in reporting the Legislative bills.

Mr. Tyler reported a bill to purchase scales for the P. O. Department, to estimate the amount of postage on prepaid newspapers.

Mr. Sumner Cox and General Butler here began where they left off last session—Mr. Cox wishing to speak and Mr. B. declining to listen. Mr. Tyler also interrupted Mr. Cox's remarks, and said he would be compelled to cut the gentleman short. Mr. Cox pathetically replied that he was used to being cut short, and added hopefully, that his side of the House would soon have a chance.

In the Senate, the Vice President presiding, the Rev. Byron Sunderland prayed that the Lord might light Congress at the present session through every difficulty. But considering the complications that becloud the political horizon, a pious petitioner is said to have suggested the added need of a calcium lamp with potent magnifying lens.

Mr. Conkling, every inch a Senator, and that steadiest of Democrats, Mr. Thurman, were appointed the Committee to wait on the President.

Mr. Morrill submitted the report of the special committee on the new District Government.

After the offering of sundry bills and the reading of the message the Senate adjourned. And thus ended the first day of that body, which, with the Supreme Court, is expected to keep alive by anxious care and tender nursing the last remnant of American dignity.

Tuesday's proceedings in the Senate and House were of some interest in showing which way the wind blows. One bill in the Senate and two in the House, looking to the reduction of the President's salary. Mr. Stock offered a bill for the punishment of Members of Congress engaged in suits against the United States.

Mr. Kelley took up his financial scheme, the "8-55 Controversial Bond Bill" from the maternal embrace of Mr. Maynard of Tenn., where it had fallen, and presented it to the House. General Butler contending with him its paternity.

Mr. Cox deprecated this renewal of a discussion, calculated to have the effect of producing unhappy fluctuations in business. Some allusion was here made to the "dying kick of a dying party," when we expected to hear something pathetic from our pig-iron friend. Just here, Mr. Butler walked over, and shook hands with Mr. Cox. It was very dramatic, almost biblical; the first streaks of the millennial morn seemed to steal through the sky-light, and throw a halo around the wolf and the lamb.

In the Senate Mr. Davis offered a resolution, which, like a Potomac herring seine was calculated to catch everything that might come in its way, both great and small.

Wednesday was a day of numerous and unimportant bills.

The Senate, Mr. Boutwell offered bills for the extension of patents for lengthening boot-straps, and sharpening heel taps, to which the Vice-President put critical and professional attention.

Thursday, Mr. Morrill of Maine moved that on Monday next the Senate consider the bill reported from the joint select committee on the District Government, which was agreed to.

If the two Houses do not play battle and shuttlecock with this bill until they have knocked it out of all shape or just proportion, we may hope to have the solid basis of a certain and good government, on which to build for the future.

Mr. Stowell denied to the House that he had sold a naval cadetship, as he had been accused of doing, and asked for an investigation. His request was granted with the alacrity with which human nature is disposed to trust something bad about our fellow men.

Mr. Dawes of Mass. expressed himself at length on the financial state of the country, without presenting anything new or that he or somebody else has not said a dozen times before.

Friday, the Senate was not in session. In the House the Senate bill appointing George Bancroft, regent of the Smithsonian Institute, vice Gen. Sherman, resigned, was concurred in. Mr. Bancroft is not only a writer of history, but is himself a historical relic, and we gladly receive him into the national gallery of antiquaries. He is more fitted, however, for civil service reform, having first, when Secretary of the Navy, about 30 years ago, experimented in this direction on that sturdy sailor, Commodore Warrington. It appears that he sought the naval hero in his room several times without success. At last, however, his persistence was rewarded. "I have been in your room half a dozen times, sir, and found you out," said the Secretary. "I don't care a d—n, sir, if you've been in a thousand times," responded the old salt, clutching at an imaginary marlin spike that had floated before his eyes like Macbeth's dagger, while the secretary retired without further voluntary remarks. Now, if any collector of the flowers of history should seek the newly appointed Regent if there is any truth in this anecdote, ten to one, he will say no. But that will not effect the credibility of these chronicles, for Rabelais says, "An honest man, of good judgment, believeth still what is told him, and that which is written."

A Tragic Affair with Burglars. William Mosier and Joseph Douglas, two desperate professional burglars, were shot and killed early on Monday morning at Bay Ridge, L. I., having been surprised in an attempted robbery of the country residence of Judge Van Brunt. The house was unoccupied, but provided with a burglar alarm, the wires of which communicated with the neighboring house of Mr. J. Holmes Van Brunt, the Judge's brother. The sounding of the alarm in the bed-room of Mr. Van Brunt aroused him at two o'clock, and he directed his son, Albert Van Brunt, to go over and investigate the cause of the alarm. The man dressed quickly, took a revolver and a lantern, awoke a man named Scott, who slept in the stable, and who had charge of the Judge's house. The two went over, and finding the cellar door open, which had been locked over night, knew that the house had been invaded. They also saw lights moving about in the rooms, which convinced them that a robbery was in progress. They then proceeded to lay plans to intercept the thieves. While the latter remained watching the young man went back and secured the assistance of his father and a hired man, named Herman, armed with pistols and shot guns. The four then took up their positions about the house. The burglars within at length became alarmed by a noise made by Scott, who went up to the house to unlock one of the doors. The word was soon given by Mr. Van Brunt, who was watching the cellar door, "Look out! They're coming." "It was pitch dark, and I could not see them, but felt that they were coming," says Mr. Van Brunt, in his account of the transaction. "When I thought they were at the top of the stairs I called out, 'Stand!' The answer was two pistol shots in the direction of my voice. By the flash of the pistols I caught an indistinct sight of the two men at the top of the cellar stairs. I fired at one of them. He started to run around the northern end of the house. Scott also fired, but neither shot took effect." The rest of the story is told by Albert Van Brunt, who met the men immediately after these shots. He says "We could hear the men rushing toward us at full speed. I fired at the man nearest the house, and Herman and myself, almost at the same instant, discharged our pieces at the other man, who staggered toward the fence and fell against it. No sooner had the last shot from our guns been fired than I heard the report of a pistol within four feet of me and the whizzing of a bullet near my head." I turned in the direction from which the shot came, and was greeted by another. This time I felt the powder in my face. I could see the form of a man within an arm's length of me, and could plainly distinguish the glistering barrel of his pistol. As he raised his pistol the third time I elbowed my gun and took his right arm with the stock. The blow must have been a strong one, for the gun snapped like a pipe stem. His arm fell powerless at the side but to avoid dropping his pistol he clutched his right with his left hand, and I could see that he was trying to bring his weapon into range for a fourth shot. But the useless arm made his motions slow, and gave me to draw my revolver which was in the right hand pocket of my trousers. But as his chances of escape became smaller his desperation and anger increased, and he uttered a horrid imprecation as the gun struck his arm. When I drew my revolver from my pocket I was close enough to slap the burglar's face, but still it was no dark that his form was indistinct. I fired while he was still trying to raise his pistol hand, but the shot did not seem to take effect. By this time we were in front of the house, having moved somewhat during the firing, and he had a clear run. He turned from me and started to run toward the north. I followed him, firing the second and third shots as fast as I could cock the pistol. At the third shot he fell, saying, as he touched the ground, in a weak voice, "I give up." After Mosier fell he made but one convulsive move of his legs, then all was over. The whole occurrence, as far as the firing was concerned, did not take a minute. Douglas, the man who was first shot, received his mortal wound in the stomach, from the shot gun of Frank Herman. The dying burglar combated death in terrible agony for nearly two hours, and died at 5 o'clock. He stated that he and Mosier had been concerned in the abduction of the Ross child, in Philadelphia, and that Mosier knew where the boy was. Events since that time confirmed this diving statement, as to the complicity in that case. Both burglars were hardened criminals, known to the police authorities, who have been watching for them for several weeks.

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